

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

The special district of southern Caucasia Transcaucasus Military District bordering the Middle East is handled in the same manner. Its former commander, Marshal Tolbukhin, died in an unfortunate accident and was replaced by General Antonov. This appointment indicates the importance of this military district.

Young General Luchinskiy is commander of the Leningrad Military District; General Grechko, Kiev; General Pukhov, Odessa; General Bagramyan, an Armenian, the Baltic Military District, and Marshal Malinovskiy, an exceptional case since he was a well-known commander in World War II, is in command in the Far East.

It is believed that in the event of war, the officers mentioned above will command the great military machine.

Several younger generals who have been recently appointed to important commanding posts are: Lyudnikov, Beloborodov, Chistyakov, Pliyev, Trofimenko, and Zakhvatayev.

It is apparent that the conquerors of the last war have been forgotten and new stars have arisen on the Moscow horizon.

Western observers are especially interested in two Soviet marshals who distinguished themselves in the war, Rokossovskiy and Zhukov.

It is believed in well-informed circles that Rokossovskiy, commander in chief of the Polish army, is destined to be commander in chief of the Soviet and Satellite armies assigned for the invasion of Europe.

Zhukov, who was much too popular, was put in command of the Ural Military District in charge of training. However, observers believe that with his ability and experience, in the event of war, he will receive one of the top military appointments.

- E N D -

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL